



Thanking America's Troops and Their Families with the Gift of Education

June 2017

In This Issue

Scholar Spotlight
Memorial Scholarship Luncheon
ThanksUSA Golf Tournament



ThanksUSA in the News

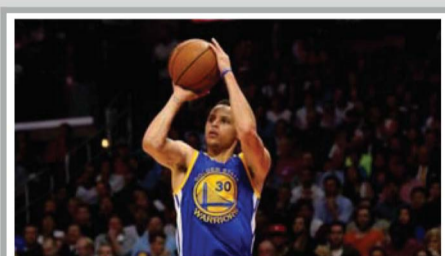
Click to view recent news reports featuring ThanksUSA scholars!

Fox 5 News

[Organization Helps Military Families Get an Education](#)

ABC7 Good Morning Washington

[How ThanksUSA Is Helping Military Families One Scholarship at a Time](#)



ThanksUSA National Spokesperson Stephen Curry

Congratulations to ThanksUSA National Spokesperson Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors on their NBA Western Conference Championship and explosive start in the Finals! Good luck in Game 3!



Tennis Thanks the Troops

Tennis Thanks the Troops celebrated Memorial Day with tennis events and fundraisers across the country, all benefiting ThanksUSA's military family scholarship program.

In College Park, MD, players of all ages gathered at the Junior Tennis Champions Center for the **All-American Family Day Bash**. Several veterans from Tennis Thanks the Troops' weekly adaptive tennis clinic participated and were recognized during the event ceremony for their service and sacrifices for our country.



In San Diego, nearly 800 players participated in the **17th Annual Tennis Fest** at Balboa Tennis Club. This free event raised funds for ThanksUSA by hosting a silent auction.



Silver Star Coffee Partnership

Silver Star Coffee, a veteran-owned and operated company, made it their mission to help those who have served our country while sharing the delicious rich flavor of Costa Rican coffee. **Twenty-five percent** of all profits are donated to ThanksUSA (supported states include CA, KS, KY, MD, OR, and VA, along with DC).

[Try a sample of their fresh, hand roasted coffee for free!](#)



Upcoming Events

JULY 24, 2017

[Heartland 4 Heroes Golf Tournament](#)
Governors Club (TN)

OCTOBER 25, 2017

[Treasure Our Troops Gala](#)
Four Seasons Hotel (DC)

[View Sponsorship Benefit Package](#)

View ThanksUSA listed in CNBC's "Top 10 Charities That Support Veterans"

[DONATE NOW](#)

ThanksUSA
1360 Chain Bridge Road #260
McLean, VA 22101
1-888-849-8720

www.ThanksUSA.org
CFC# 99441



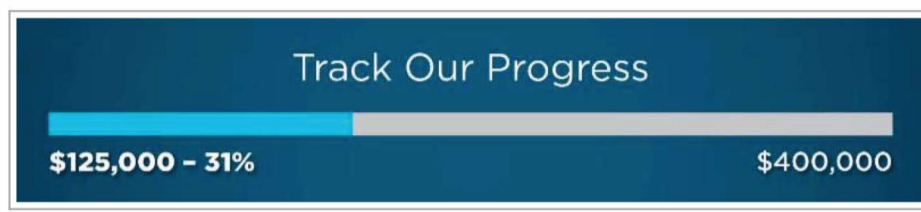
Dear Supporter,

Summer is almost here, and with it comes a new group of ThanksUSA scholarship applicants! This year we received nearly 1,800 scholarship applications from military children and spouses across the United States, representing all military branches.

Now comes the hard part of choosing scholarship recipients out of the outstanding pool of applicants we received. We look forward to awarding scholarships to many deserving military spouses and children, and we can't wait to meet the new additions to the ThanksUSA family!

As the weather heats up, so does **The Kovner Foundation Challenge Grant!** Donations to ThanksUSA will be matched dollar for dollar, up to a total of \$400,000! **Here's the catch -- the challenge ends June 30!** To date we have raised \$125,000, and the race is on to meet the challenge.

[Click here to make a donation](#) that will go twice as far for military families!



ThanksUSA Scholar Spotlight - Graduation Edition

Congratulations to 2017 San Diego Christian College graduate **Samantha Hatch!** The recipient of a 2016 Strada Education/ThanksUSA scholarship, Samantha completed her Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministries and is already working on her Master of Divinity degree at Azusa Pacific University. This proud Navy spouse and mother of two has a strong desire to serve her military community and hopes to be accepted into the Navy Chaplain Candidate Program.

"There are no words to describe how thankful I am for the ThanksUSA scholarship. It helped alleviate the financial hardships that come with attending college. I am forever grateful for this amazing opportunity that was given to me, and to all those who help support this amazing scholarship!"



Samantha Hatch



Taylor Soucy

Congratulations to 2017 Pennsylvania State University graduate **Taylor Soucy!** Since receiving a ThanksUSA scholarship in 2013, this Army dependent became a student of Penn State's Honors College, participated in the Millennium Scholars Program, interned at Unilever, and was a member of the Millennium Scholars Cohort Council and Undergraduate Research Society. Taylor recently graduated in the top five percent of her class with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and will be pursuing a PhD in Materials Chemistry at the University of Michigan.

ThanksUSA would also like to recognize Taylor's brother who recently completed training at Parris Island. Congratulations to PFC Anthony Soucy, U.S. Marine Corps! And best of luck to all of our scholar graduates!

Read more about ThanksUSA scholars on our Scholarship [Blog](#).

Senators Stevens and Inouye Memorial Scholarship Luncheon

On April 26, ThanksUSA held the seventh annual Senators Ted Stevens and Dan Inouye Memorial Scholarship Luncheon in Washington, DC. Every year ThanksUSA announces scholarships in honor of the late Senators. This year ThanksUSA also recognized the new members of the 115th Congress who have served in the military.

Along with the participation of ThanksUSA sponsors, supporters and scholars, this year's Luncheon was made special by several distinguished guests. Speaking during the program were U.S. Representatives Tulsi Gabbard (Hawaii), Louie Gohmert (Texas), Don Young (Alaska), and Inspector General of the Air Force Lieutenant General Anthony Rock. They all remembered the many contributions honorees Senator Stevens and Senator Inouye made to our country and lauded ThanksUSA's work on behalf of military families.

Those in attendance emphasized the importance of the military family, and the sacrifices they make so that their military family member can serve and protect our nation. As Colonel Rock said during the program, "these spouses and children may be referred to as dependents, but our soldiers are the ones that depend on them."

See event photos [here](#).



ThanksUSA CEO Bob Okun, Congressman Don Young (Alaska), ThanksUSA Board Member Lily Becker (daughter of Senator Ted Stevens), Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard (Hawaii), and ThanksUSA scholars Charlotte Orren and Cedric Pulliam

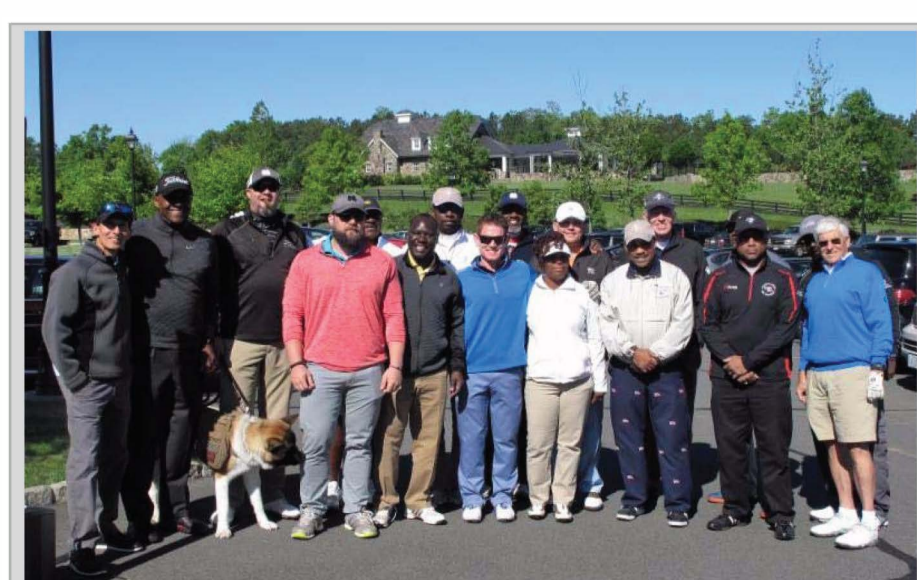
ThanksUSA Golf Tournament

On May 8, ThanksUSA hosted our 10th Annual Golf Tournament at Creighton Farms Golf Club in Aldie, VA. The beautiful weather, and the participation of a dozen wounded service members, made this tournament particularly memorable.

Each wounded service member was introduced by one of four Generals who currently serve on ThanksUSA's Board or Advisory Council: GEN George W. Casey, Jr., USA (Ret); Maj Gen Jack Catton, USAF (Ret); LTG John W. Morgan III, USA (Ret); Lt Gen Tad Oelstrom, USAF (Ret). Those in attendance heard inspiring stories of how each Veteran is giving back to others in their community, even while faced with their own rehabilitation.

Past collegiate golfer and ThanksUSA scholarship recipient **Charlotte Orren** spoke to the group about how a Lockheed Martin/ThanksUSA scholarship made a difference in her life, allowing her to continue studies at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida. She is currently fulfilling her dream as a Flight Test Engineer with the F35 program at Lockheed Martin.

See event photos [here](#).



Wounded service members are joined by ThanksUSA CEO Bob Okun; ThanksUSA Board Members GEN George W. Casey, Jr., USA (Ret) and Maj Gen Jack Catton, USAF (Ret); and ThanksUSA Advisory Council Members LTG John W. Morgan III, USA (Ret) and Lt Gen Tad Oelstrom, USAF (Ret)